

S.No.	District	Number of patients detected in 1999-2000.
45.	Ranchi	5397
46.	Sahebganj	1070
47.	Pakur	536
48.	Saharsa	3072
49.	Supaul	3415
50.	Samastipur	2740
51.	Saran	2999
52.	Vaishali	1792
		172395/-

Malnutrition among Children

2857. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether almost half of the Indian children are malnourished; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to spend more on Public Health Policy to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA): (a) As per the India Nutrition Profile, 1998, 49.2% of pre-school children are malnourished.

(b) Government have adopted the following measures to improve the nutritional status of the population:

1. Availability of essential food items at subsidised cost through Public Distribution System.
2. Improving the purchasing power of the people through income generating schemes.
3. Nutrition Education to increase the awareness and bringing about the desired changes in the feeding practices including promotion of breast feeding.
4. Supplementary Feeding Programmes such as:
 - (i) Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)
 - (ii) Special Nutrition Programme (SNP)
 - (iii) Balwadi Nutrition Programme

- (iv) Wheat Based Supplementary Nutrition Programme
- (v) Mid Day Meal programme.

In addition, Programmes for Prevention of Specific micronutrient deficiencies are being undertaken; these are:—

- (i) National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme.
- (ii) National Nutritional Anaemia Control Programme and Programme to prevent Vitamin "A" deficiency which are both under the Reproductive Child Health Scheme.
- (iii) A pilot Project against Micronutrient deficiencies.

Medical Treatment of Former PMs

2858. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:

SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total expenditure incurred by the Central Government on medical treatment availed of by former Prime Ministers in foreign countries, together with their ailments and break-up of the expenses, individual-wise during the last three years;

(b) the cases whether the foreign medical facilities were insisted upon and availed even though comparable medical facilities were available in India and the reasons for granting sanctions therefore; and

(c) whether retired class I officers of the Central Government are also, as a rule, permitted to avail of foreign medical facilities and if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) The detailed information is given in the Statements— I to IV. (See below)

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. The Central Services (Medical Attendance) Rules, 1944 under which "treatment-abroad cases" are considered, are not applicable to retired Government servants.